

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:115
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2007
AGRICULTURAL GROWTH RATE
Masood Shri Rasheed

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set out a target for increasing the growth rate in agricultural sector to 4 percent during the Eleventh Plan; and

(b) if so, the efforts being made in this direction and the results achieved thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) and (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 115 DUE FOR REPLY ON 20TH AUGUST, 2007.

(a) & (b): The National Development Council (NDC) in its 53rd meeting held on 29th May, 2007 reaffirmed its commitment to achieve 4 per cent annual growth in the agricultural sector during the Eleventh Plan. It also resolved, inter alia, the following:

- # Launching of a Food Security Mission covering wheat, rice and pulses aimed at producing an additional 8 million tonnes of wheat, 10 million tonnes of rice and 2 million tonnes of pulses.
- # Introducing a new scheme for Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to State Plans. The newly created National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) would assist States in planning for rainfed areas.
- # To provide additional resources for irrigation.
- # Strategic focus on the national agricultural research effort.
- # To take new initiatives for skill development in the farming community.
- # The state Governments are to prepare District and State Agricultural Plans for prioritizing the investment in the sector.

In view of the above, Government of India has approved two schemes for accelerating the growth rate in the agriculture sector. These are:

- (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and
- (ii) Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACAS) for implementing the State and District Plans for agricultural development.